Light Strike Craft (LSC)

Description

The LSC is an over-the-horizon small boat raid platform in the Marine Corps family of small craft. The LSC is designed to be forward-deployed with Marine Air Ground Task Forces (MAGTFs) such as Marine Expeditionary Units (MEUs). The LSC will be capable of carrying a 13-man Marine infantry squad through high surf zones. With a range in excess of 50 nautical miles, the LSC will fully support Operational Maneuver From The Sea and Ship To Objective Maneuver. Typically launched from 20 to 25 nautical miles from the objective, ten to twelve LSCs will carry a Marine Infantry Company during the conduct of an amphibious operation.

The LSC will be designed to be modular. Therefore, LSCs can be configured to carry logistics, mount extra radios, and mount weapons. The craft will operate off-plane in conditions up to Sea State 4 and is designed to traverse high surf zones.

Operational Impact

The acquisition of the Light Strike Craft will operationally impact the performance of amphibious operations, by replacing a craft of marginal performance. While providing a stable ride with protection from an organic gun mount, the LSC will negotiate a surf zone and deliver the embarked force to a beach landing site. The force will conduct its mission and return to the landing site for link-up with the LSC.

Program Status

The LSC program is a new initiative that is currently in Phase 0. The program is fully funded in POM 2002.

Procurement Profile: FY01 FY02

Quantity: 0 0

Developer/Manufacturer

TBD